Allocation of Foodgrains to Orissa

*447. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to enhance allocation of rice and wheat to Orissa in order to meet the additional requirement due to floods there; and

(b) if so, the details of the demand made by the State Government and the steps taken to enhance the allocation of rice and wheat to the State?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Orissa has made a request for the release of 3 lakh MT of foodgrains for the period ending March, 2002. The current Food For Work programme will be in operation upto 30th September, 2001. The Government of Orissa has been asked to indicate its requirement of foodgrains upto that date, along with district-wise details.

Restructuring of Small Scale Industries

*448. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of small scale industries which are suffering losses in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by Government to restructure such small scale industries in different parts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The data on Small Scale Industries (SSI) units suffering losses is not maintained centrally. However the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) compiles data on sick SSIs including Village and Cottage industries financed by scheduled Commercial banks. As per the latest data compiled by the RBI, the number of sick SSI units at the end of March, 2000 was 3,04,235. The State-wise data on sick SSI units is given in Statement (*See* below).

(b) The Government is fully seized of the problem of industrial sickness amongst the SSI units and has taken various measures to facilitate timely identification and rehabilitation of potentially viable sick industries, which inter-alia, include institutional mechanism in the form of State Level Inter